

REMARKS

This Amendment adds new claims 37-72. Claims 1-72 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 21, 31, 37, 46, 57 and 67 are independent.

The Office Action provisionally rejects claims 1, 10 and 31 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1, 8, 17 and 24 of co-pending Application No. 09/615,842. Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be held in abeyance.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 6, 8, 10-13, 17, 19 and 31-35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Chae; claims 20-24 and 28-29 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Chae in view of Weiner et al.; and claims 3-5, 7, 14-16, 25-27, 30 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Chae and Fehlner et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

None of the applied references teach or suggest the features of independent claims 1, 10, 21, 31, 37, 46, 57 and 67 including irradiating a laser beam along a scan direction which is parallel to a channel region. Rather, Chae discloses radiating a laser beam along a scan direction which is orthogonal to the channel region because gates (22) are elongated and parallel to the scan direction of the laser beam as shown in Fig. 7. Hence, in Chae, the scan direction of the laser beam is orthogonal to the channel region. Neither Weiner et al. or Fehlner et al. remedy this deficiency of Chae. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of these rejections.

In view of the foregoing Amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for interference. Prompt reconsideration and declaration of an interference is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application into condition for interference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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